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The Long Island FISHERMAN

NOVEMBER 15TH, 1973, ISSUE NO. 44

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE LARGEST WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

VOL. 8 NO.44 NOVEMBER 15, 1973

CONTENTS

COD FISH STEW	Trudie Sciacca	5
ACCIDENTAL BASS	Don Vetter	6
ON THE BEACH	Dr. William Muller	8
TAKE THAT, YOU COD!	Ron Onorato	10
BLACKFISH FOR SHORE	Don Millus	12
CUTTING UP THE DEER	Fred Guardineer	13

DEPARTMENTS

News RFeleases	4
News Releases	4
Obituary	4
Solunar Tables	21
Classified	22
Tide Tables	24

NEWS REPORTS BY:

Dick Alley, Art Frey, Stu Miller, Scott Simons, Pete Barrett, Mike Zarrella

ABOUT THE COVER: Al Daniels took this 50 lb. striped bass on Sept. 30th off Gardiner's Island. The lure that turned the trick was one of Capt. John Sekora's (Montauk's Easy Rider) giant black tubes, which can be seen in the mouth of the bass.

PUBLISHER: Rich Reina

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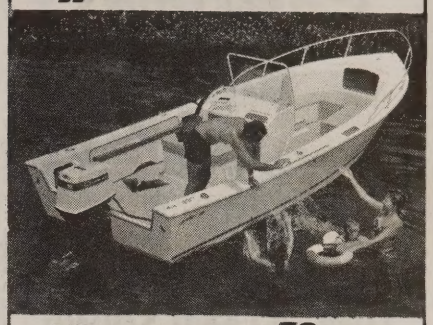

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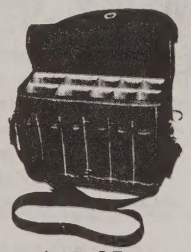

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News Releases

SOBA ANNOUNCES NEW CHAPTERS TO BE FORMED

The Save Our Bays Association of Long Island has announced the creation of chapters of SOBA in the four Long Island counties. An effort to bring the serious condition of the marine environment surrounding our island to the attention of the public will be the main goal of the chapter chairmen. Public pressure on offending violators and the stopping of environmental damaging projects will be fought by all means available including legal proceedings.

The Chapter Chairmen of SOBA are:
Suffolk County: Thomas Zawyrucha
Nassau County: Jo-Ann Hines
Queens: Ronald Kirsch
Brooklyn: Prof. Jeanne Holker

The citizens of Long Island willing to give of their time to the SOBA cause of protecting our marine environment may join by writing to SOBA of Long Island P.O. Box 55 Seaford, New York 11783.

For further information call — George H. Wilde — (516) SU-5-3139.

IMPROVED COURSE ON SEAMANSHIP AND BOATING

Flotilla 12-8, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, will begin its revised, improved, twelve lesson course on Seamanship and Boating Safety on Tuesday, January 8, 1974 at 8:00 P.M. at the Martin Van Buren High School in Queens Village. The course will be given by qualified instructors and will feature all aspects of boat handling. It is offered free to the public. For early registration or additional information, write to Public Education Officer John Stripp, 222-19 143 Street, Springfield Gardens, New York 11413, or call (212) LA-8-1563.

IN FONDEST MEMORY

We regret to report that the Rev. Father Joseph Fox, Pastor at the Chapel at Kennedy Airport, was killed in a mid-air crash on Tuesday, Election Day. He was in the small plane as a passenger and was therefore not at the controls. As fate would have it, he was a crack pilot and a member of the New York State Civil Air Patrol.

Father Joe was a top flight fisherman, a real pro on the water and a wonderful person. He was well known all over the East coast. His many involvements included Honorary Chaplin of the N.Y. City Fire Dept.; member of the Emerald Society, N.Y.C. Fire Dept.; member of Bell Club, N.Y.C. Fire Dept.; Vice President and member of the Board of Directors, Atlantic Tuna Tournament; Board of Directors, L.I. Swordfish Tournament.

In lieu of flowers, those who wish are requested to contribute to the Kennedy Airport Chapel Building Fund. Donations should be sent to Our Lady of the Sky's Chapel, Kennedy Airport, Jamaica, New York 11432.

Father Joe celebrated his 52nd birthday just two days prior to the fatal crash.

NOTICE TO READERS

Ted Pini, of J&T Olympian Sporting Goods in New Hyde Park advises that he carries not only the Sr. in Black Scale & Yellow Belly, but also many other deadly fresh water bass lures. Ted invites Earl Glasshagel and any other anglers to drop in and bat the breeze.

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Cod Fish Stew

by Trudie Sciacca

The fall season is now with us and hopefully many fishermen will be able to venture out and procure codfish. With good seasonable catches, codfish in our local supermarkets should also be at a reasonable price.

Codfish is a staple fish used throughout many parts of the world. In the Scandinavian countries traditionally codfish have been caught and dried and used for winter consumption. In many parts of Italy they are either sun dried or salted for preservation. Signs in the fish stores, such as Baccala and Stocco, are foreign names for treated codfish.

Here is an old recipe used by many families of Italian descent on Christmas Eve. It can be made with either fresh codfish chunks, boned steaks or pre-soaked Stocco. If you make the recipe with Stocco, be sure that you purchase it pre-soaked, and rinse and soak it at least four or five times before using. It has been salted and dried, and the aroma is quite fishy.

INGREDIENTS

4 medium size onions

6 stalks of celery

1 jar (4 oz.) of vinegar or salted capers (rinse, soak & drain)

½ lb. Spanish or Sicilian green olives with pits (large size)

2 cloves of finely sliced garlic

1 can tomato paste

6 to 8 medium sized peeled potatoes, cut in chunks

4 to 5 medium sized codfish steaks, washed and boned

(or: 2 to 3 lb. Stocco presoaked — washed & rewashed — drained)

Water — red flake pepper — cooking oil for frying

PROCEDURE

Peel and dice your onions. Wash celery stalks and dice. Peel garlic cloves and slice very fine: put a little cooking oil in a large sized saucepan and saute the above mentioned ingredients (medium heat) until soft (not brown).

Add capers, which have been rinsed in cold water and drained.

Place your olives on a board and smash or crack open with a wooden hammer or empty soda bottle. Leave pits in. If olives are purchased bottled in vinegar solution, rinse and drain. Add these to sauteed vegetables. Stir in one can of tomato paste; keep stirring until mixture starts to thicken. Add sufficient water so that you can then put in your peeled chunks of raw potato, and bring this to a boil. Stir occasionally, and when potatoes are partially cooked (about ten minutes) add your chunks of codfish, making sure that if you use steaks you have removed the center bone. Boil over medium heat for 10-15 minutes.

If a more tangy taste is desired, add red flake pepper. NO SALT IS REQUIRED — the olives and the capers give off sufficient salty flavor. This stew should serve a family of five or six adults with healthy portions.

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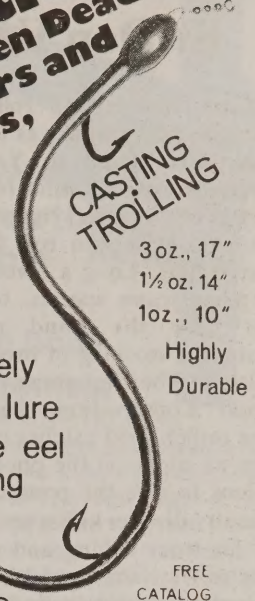

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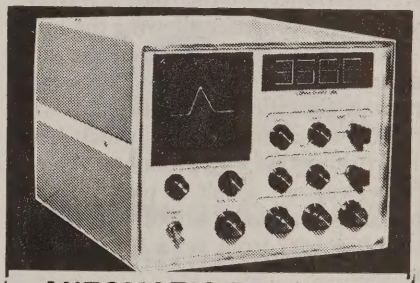

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Accidental Bass

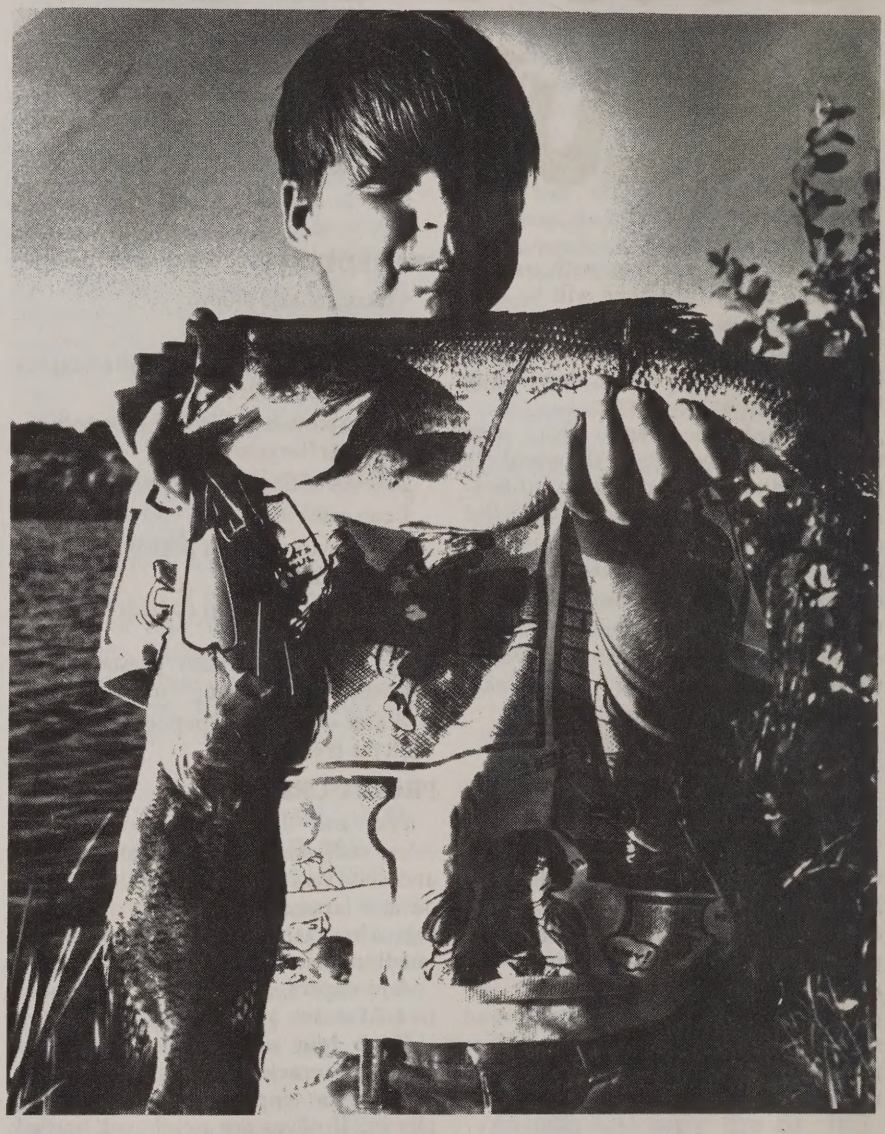
By Don Vetter

Dense, low clouds rolled sullenly across the lead gray sky as I drove up to Lower Twin Pond in Yaphank last April. The easterly wind blew in fitful gusts at my back as I rigged up the five foot ultra-light spin rod for a bit of trout fishing. Long a favorite of mine for warm water species, this was the first year the pond received a substantial stocking of brook trout. Al Keller, of The Department of Environmental Conservation, had reported some rather good catches of trout here when we spoke on the phone, so I was anxious to give the pond a try.

Small saltwater killies are my favorite bait for trout fishing and since I had opted to leave the fly rod home on this particular occasion, a lip-hooked, inch long killie, on a #6 eagle claw hook, was soon sailing out over the pond's surface. The wind-assisted cast was a long one, as the two pound test mono offered little resistance to the bait's passage through the air. After allowing the killie to settle in the water, I began the slow retrieve with pauses at three foot intervals (to allow the killie to swim about in a natural manner) which I use when fishing this way. About two thirds of the way in, I felt a pick up and opened the bail to let what I took to be a small hatchery trout get a firm grip on the bait.

After allowing a runoff of about ten feet, I closed the bail and allowed the line to come taut before setting the hook. Much to my surprise the little rod doubled up, as the fish took off on a sizzling run, with the drag ratchet screaming in protest. Luckily I was fishing from the relatively obstruction-free portion of the shore line adjacent to Yaphank Avenue, and the fish, though he put up a spirited battle on that light outfit, was easy enough to land with a thumb in the jaw grip. My first trout of the year turned out to be a three and a half pound largemouth bass!

This was by no means the first time I had taken bass while trout fishing in the month of April; many a bigmouth has found a trout-intended bait too good a morsel to pass up in such diverse waters as Freeport Reservoir and Patchogue's Canaan Lake, and would seem to give the lie to those who claim that bass remain inactive and do little or no feeding until the water warms.



Don Norket, Jr., with bass and crappie taken from Hawley's Pond, Babylon.

One good location for this proclivity towards early season feeding binges is the little backwater pond, choked with a half drowned timber, which lies just to the east of the dam at Hard's Lake in the Suffolk County Park at Southaven. On any trout expedition made to this water, I always toss a plastic worm amid the stumps of this pond to catch and release a few of the plentiful and ravenous bass which lurk here early in the year. For some reason unknown, the ranks of bass thin rapidly with the approach of the bass season and, by opening day, there is nothing like the action which was available just a few short weeks earlier. The frustration of fruitlessly casting over this water in the summer months would almost lead one to believe the bass were calendar watchers, who KNEW when the bass season was closed, and when it was opened.

Fishing for bluegills with various topwater fly rod bugs is always good for a juvenile bass or two on a summer evening, and occasionally for a largemouth of quite respectable proportions. It never fails to amaze me when a good bass slams a tiny popper intended for 'gills; it would hardly seem to be worth the energy expended to grab such a miniscule meal. Slugging it out

with a four pound largemouth, using a fly rod and leader tippet designed for palm-sized bluegills, can be quite an experience, particularly amidst the lily pads where the panfish are most often found; yet repeated attempts to take bass with larger bugs, and fly tackle suitable to do the job just right have, more often than not, proven to be a waste of time.

Last spring I asked Earl Glasshagel for the name and location of a pond known for its fine crappie fishing. Armed with my lightest fly rod, and the location of Hawley's pond in Babylon, I set forth to do battle with some of those slab-sized, toothsome panfish. By the time I got around to giving the pond a try (late July), it was pretty well choked with weeds.

I headed for the small bridge indicated as a crappie hotspot, and began casting a #8 white marabou streamer to such open spots in the weed beds as I could find. My efforts were soon rewarded when a ten inch largemouth grabbed the offering. All told, that day, I took 27 bass from eight to twelve inches in length, one seventeen inch bass (the only fish I kept), and one bass, of undetermined size, who gained his freedom by hopelessly entangling my leader in the densest part of the weed growth. Not a single crappie fell to my rod; perhaps if I had been bass fishing? The photo Earl sent me, along with the pond's location, should have given me a clue — a youngster with a crappie and a nice bass. The question is, was he crappie fishing, and caught the bass by accident, or bass fishing, and the crappie the accident?

White perch fishing the Island's tidal streams in late fall and winter is almost certain to produce a bass or two, but of a different variety — the kind with stripes on their sides; since this is a freshwater article, I'll stick to accidental largemouths.

At the tail end of Forge Pond on the Peconic River, white perch, though not large, are abundant through the summer months and into the fall, abundant to the extent of making bass fishing with live bait or small artificials an impossible act: the perch grab your offerings as soon as they hit the water. Resigning myself to the inevitable, I set out, equipped with light fly rod and a box of all the popular panfish flies, to fill a stringer with perch. The result? A five and one-half pound largemouth, the biggest bass I had taken so far this season, slammed my #6 White Miller pattern and tried the little fly rod and three-pound test tippet to the utmost. That I managed to steer the fish away from obstructions, and eventually land him, can only be chalked-up to good fortune.

Prospecting for pickerel, along the south and west shorelines of Southard's Pond in Babylon, with a Mepps spinner last August produced no chainsides (which normally abound here) but three nice bass, ranging in size from fourteen inches to just under four pounds, bass I could find neither hide nor hair of while plastic worming earlier in the year. To top that, I chanced upon a youngster with the biggest bass I have ever seen or heard of taken from Southard's the victim of a carp-intended doughball!

Deep drifting the thermocline of Wildwood Lake in Riverhead, with nightcrawlers or live killies for browns or rainbows, has taken many a bass for me. Over the years I have taken far more bass (not to mention perch and pickerel) than trout from this particular body of water, and the majority of these largemouths were caught while fishing for something else; shoreline casting at dusk with a plastic worm or similar bass lure has rarely paid off so well.

Reflecting back over the years of fishing for many species in various bodies of water, I sometimes find myself wondering if, in fact, I have not caught as many (or perhaps even more) bass by accident than I have on purpose!

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ON THE BEACH

by Dr. William A. Muller

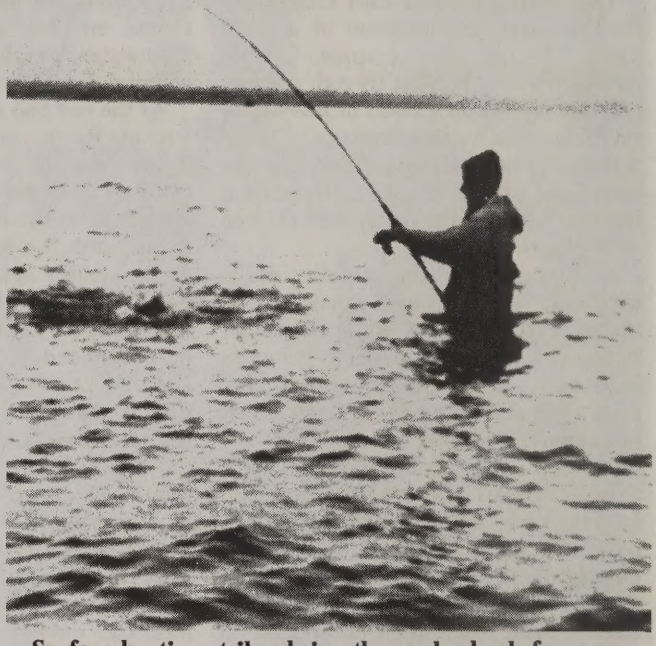
Now that the fall migration of bass and blues is under way, that most peculiar animal emerges from his summer dormancy and places his skills in the soft light of a harvest moon. The surf fisherman — this is his time of year! The surfmen can dominate in a short season that begins the end of September and ends sometime in December.

Surf fishing is the most difficult discipline of angling and usually is the least rewarding — if all one cares about is the number of fish put on the beach. The devotee shuns the use of bait, especially when someone is watching!

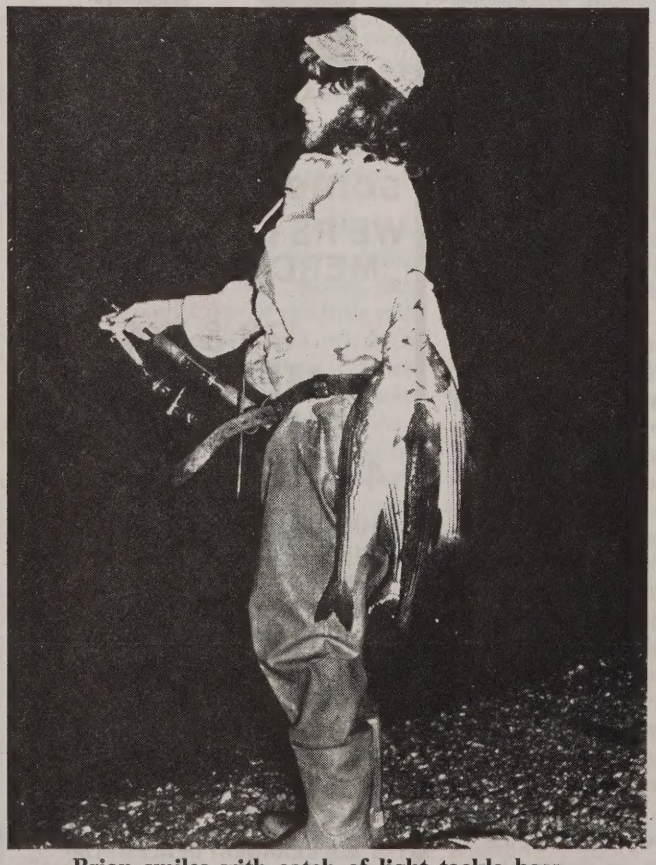
The surfmen prefer the jolt of a gamefish striking an artificial. These lures take every shape and form, color and texture, but they all have one thing in common. That is, in one way or another, they resemble a living baitfish or perhaps irritate a fish into striking.

Surfcasting is a science, albeit inexact at times. All pertinent factors must be learned and catalogued in the mind: the force and direction of the wind, the tide, the moon, the cloud cover or lack of it, water temperatures, local bottom configurations, the construction of lures, the repair of reels and other tackle, the advantages and disadvantages of various kinds of terminal tackle, and the list goes on and on. Little wonder then that all of this, which is frequently learned through hard knocks, is seldom shared with aspiring novices.

Of course fiberglass rods, spinning reels, and monofilament lines have simplified the degree of specialization, but then those of us who learned the trade with conventional gear had the advantage of knowing that we had mastered a difficult technique. Then too, today's more crowded beaches require some skills that were not common to "old timers".



Surface-busting strikes bring the angler back for more.



Brian smiles with catch of light tackle bass.

But there is no doubt that, as the sport is unique, so too are the men who participate in it. The names are legendary in the sport: Charlie Graves, the great innovator and lure designer; Montauk's Frank Tuma Sr.; the mad Russian, the loner, who would work the southside into submission while everybody else piled up on the North Bar. These men are but a few of the patriarchs of the sport.

My contemporaries, however, lack none of the color and the flair of their predecessors. Take Bob, a gentle man whom I met at Jones Beach West End. Straight from Viet Nam via the army, his first civilian task was to pack up his wife and go to Montauk in August. His first cast in the middle of the day into a stagnant and clear surf (because he couldn't wait until dark) produced a hit and a 29 pound bass.

Then there's Brian, who was sixteen when we first met on a private stretch of beach. He became a legend on that beach because he learned how to take more cows out of those waters than anyone else. Today he's a young man whose surf skills are far removed from those of the novice who lost a big fish for me when he couldn't handle the gaff. The skills that he has perfected he learned on his own, because a man must prove himself in the surf if he is to be accepted and respected by his peers. Brian's baptism came the night that he whipped a 50 pound cow off a jetty in a howling wind.

Doug found himself in the middle of a blitz at Montauk in which large fish were the rule rather than the exception. After

Bob casts from the West End jetty.

landing a few fish on this particular night, his lure broke loose and came to rest less than ten feet in front of his position. He quickly tied on a jig with the hope of snagging the lure because, as so often happens, the bass were taking only blue Gibbs' Darters on that tide, and these lures were as scarce as figs on an apple tree. Turning to cast the jig, Doug noticed that the fellow standing beside him had already snagged the lure.

"Hey — thanks a lot!"

The man next to Doug was obviously a novice. He was dressed in sneakers, slacks, and a sports shirt against the wind driven spray and the cold night air. His fishing tackle was also no match for big fish or the wind and swells of Montauk. He snapped at Doug!

"This lure isn't yours. You lost it and now I've found it — it's mine."

Well, after a few more verbal exchanges a fight was in progress. Nothing too serious, but they raised a good commotion. Within short order Doug had matters well in hand, and other anglers began to gather in curiosity. When the other men saw what was happening some of them moved in to separate the combatants. Suddenly, a husky voice emerged from the crowd.

"Leave 'em alone. The guy on top's wearing waders — he must be right."

Such is the way of the surf. The rocks under the light at Montauk, during a bass blitz rolling to the accompaniment of four foot swells, is no place for a beginner. It's hard to fault these guys for their stoical appraisal of stressful situations. The combined activities of fishing elbow to elbow, lures

(Continued on page 11)

Doug examines a mixed bag of school bass and blues.

Take That, You Cod!

by Ron Onorato

The wind was building from the Northwest and the huge white clouds that came racing by put the damper on our first codfish trip. The skipper of our expedition, George Zola, cast dubious glances over the wind-whipped waters of Hempstead Bay. The latest marine bulletin had issued small craft warnings, but added that the wind would subside later in the day.

George decided that it would be worth a shot based on the good reports that he had received the day before. With that, we slid the 19 foot Aquasport down the ramp and into the water. The boat snaked its way through Reynolds Channel and headed for Freeport Cold Storage, where we purchased three bushels of skimmer clams. The dockhand informed us that the codfish were pretty solid on open bottom in about 85 to 90 feet of water, south of Jones Inlet. He also told us that it was pretty rough outside and that many of the smaller boats had not ventured out. We cast off and headed towards Jones Inlet.

With the caution and skill that comes through years of experience of piloting small boats, George Zola got us through the inlet in one piece. Once the boat was away from the inlet, sea conditons settled down a bit, and it was not as bad as we thought it would be as the boat sped due south on it way to the codfish grounds.

Since we had left rather late, some of the party boats that sailed earlier were already anchored and fishing when they materialized before us in the distance. George headed slowly through the small fleet, and every now and again a rod would bend and a cod would come over the rail.

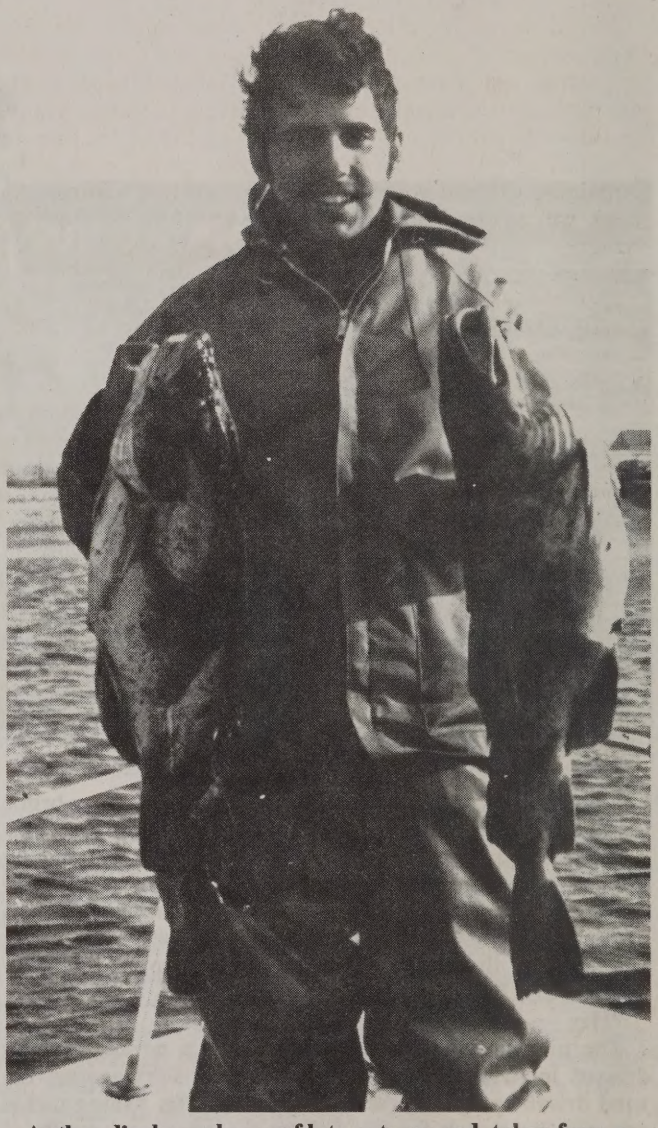
Norm was ready with the anchor when the boat stopped. Since it was windy and choppy, a lot of anchor line was needed to secure the boat properly.

The four of us had rigged up at the ramp, so it was short order before we had baited lines in the water. We used 4/0 claw-type hooks, rigged about three feet above the 10 ounce sinkers we were using, and a whole skimmer was placed on each hook. I put my rod in the holder and began the job of chumming. First I dumped the entire bucket of empty clam shells over the side, then started to crack skimmers and drop then over them over the side. I chummed about a half bushel's worth before I took a breather.

It took a little while for the fish to respond to the chum, but they eventually came around: Norm was the first to connect with a small cod of about five pounds. It was my turn next. I felt the tell-tale knock of the fish, and then set the hook — another small fish.

George Oliver was the first to connect with a sizable fish of about 15 pounds and, thereafter, action was consistant through much of the day. As long as the skimmers were cracked, the fish responded. No one made mention of the weather when the action began to heat up.

The sun was low in the west when we pulled the hook and headed back to Long Island. The wind had died, and the ride home was a pleasant one. Although we had failed to connect with any cow cod, we had a nice catch of small to medium size fish.



Author displays a brace of late autumn cod, taken from a small boat.

As the water temperature of the ocean south of Long Island begins to cool, codfish make the journey from the far offshore waters to forage inshore. At times the codfish will come in as close as 45 feet of water, although the best action is in a little deeper water. By the beginning of November, the first cod are caught on open bottom. Action steadily increases through the month, and peaks around the last week of November and the first week of December. Fish will be caught through much of December, but the weather gets progressively worse.

Fishing for cod requires no real tackle specialization. A stout boat rod capable of handling 20 ounces of lead is a must: when the tides are running, a lot lead may be needed. A good quality reel with a metal spool is also essential. The metal spool will be able to stand up to the pressure of hauling big fish from deep water.

Although codfish run large (fish upwards of 60 pounds are

caught), it is not essential that you use heavy line. I use 20 pound Ande line and have landed cod up to 45 pounds on it. The fine line permits me to use less lead and, as long as the drag is kept moderately loose and you are not fishing a wreck, the lighter line is more than adequate. If you are wreck fishing or are fishing from a crowded party boat, then 30 pound line, or higher, is necessary.

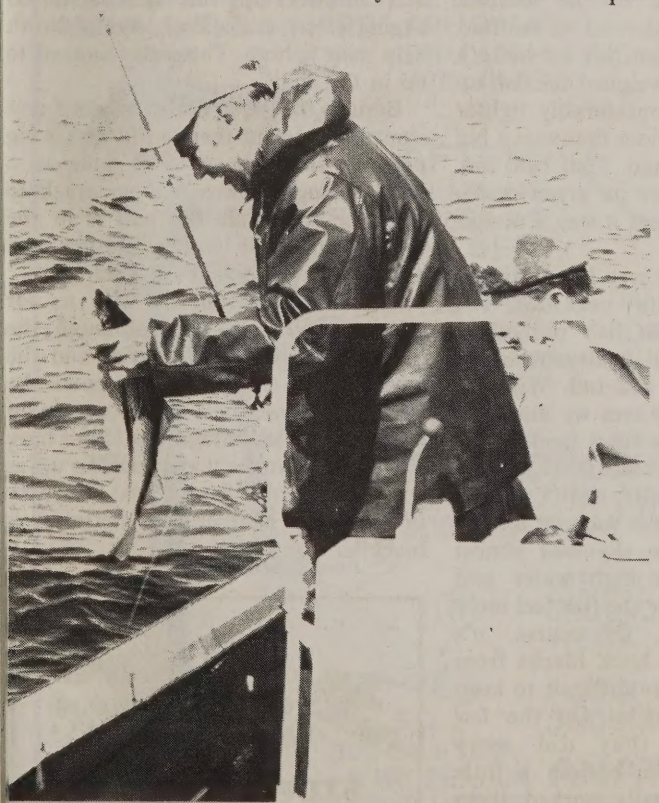
Terminal tackle should be kept on the simple side. The fewer gadgets you have, the less often you will tangle: a three way swivel, a sinker and a hook are all you really need. To one eye of the swivel, attach a three foot length of mono. Tie the sinker to the other end. Tie the terminal end of the line you area fishing with to another eye, then attach the hook to the remaining eye and you're in business. In this manner, the hook will swing free of the line about three feet off the bottom.

I prefer a 4/0 or 5/0 claw-type hook snelled on a three foot leader of thirty pound leader material. The hook is then usually baited with a whole skimmer clam. Sometimes a filet of mackerel will work well, especially if the mackerel is freshly caught.

The most essential aspect of codfishing on open bottom is chumming. The fish are spread over a wide area, and they must be brought near your boat. I have found that cracking skimmers and dumping over empty clam shells is the best way to chum, and you should chum often and heavily in order to really do a job on the fish. I usually bring along two bushels of skimmers for a day's chumming.

A good set of foul weather gear, along with thermal underwear, is a must if you plan to fish from a small, open boat. The drier you remain, the warmer you will be. If you're fishing from a party boat, you can always go inside the cabin and warm up; you'll miss the fishing, though.

Each year, more and more fishermen are tackling the winter ocean in small boats. Many of these boats are quite seaworthy, but you must still exercise caution whenever venturing offshore. The winter weather can change very rapidly and you should be aware of the latest marine bulletins.



George Zola unhooks a school cod that fell victim to chumming and baiting with skimmer clams.

It is a little more comfortable to fish from a party boat if this kind of fishing is your bag, then you will have no trouble setting up a codfish trip. Freeport, Captree, and Sheepshead Bay all have boats going for cod, even through the winter.

Whatever way you wish to fish for cod, you will find that the end result is well worth it. Codfish is perhaps the most delectable of all seafood. Fried, baked, broiled, or put in a soup, "bacala" is sure to make the mouth water.

ON THE BEACH

(Continued from page 9)

pushed in every direction by the wind, the tide, and the white water, while clinging to a slippery rock, are not easy to coordinate. The mistakes of the novice can cost somebody a leg, an arm, a finger, an eye, or even a life.

For that one moment Doug was accepted into the bosom of a fraternity that protected him from an outsider, but the next day, fishing alone and into a big fish, the only other angler on the beach might refuse to gaff it for him.

Surfcasting isn't for everyone, because it's a rigorous sport and demands a lot of coordination, skill, perseverance, experience, and some strength. It takes a special person to stand tall against the high surf which can knock you down, filling your waders with frigid water. If you get up it will be to make a cast and be knocked down again. But if the fish keep coming, chances are that no storm or its thundering breakers could deter you.

Except for the blitz a guy may have to fish even the best stretch of beach many times before he can discover the correct combination of all the aforementioned factors that will help him to produce fish consistently.

What makes a guy do these things? What makes a fisherman put on ten or more pounds of waders, lure box, and other gear to fish and area and walk for miles without catching a fish? Why does Bob get up at 4 a.m. and fish an entire cloudy day at Jones Inlet, only to get in his car after sunset and drive two hours to Montauk in order to fish all night?

What makes Doug forego many of the comforts of life in order to be free to fish without sleep for three days and nights at Montauk, and then come home and fish another beach all night? Brian's ready to go casting at the drop of a hat, and no better companion can you find. The passion of these two young men for the surf has brought out the best in them, and in those that share their company.

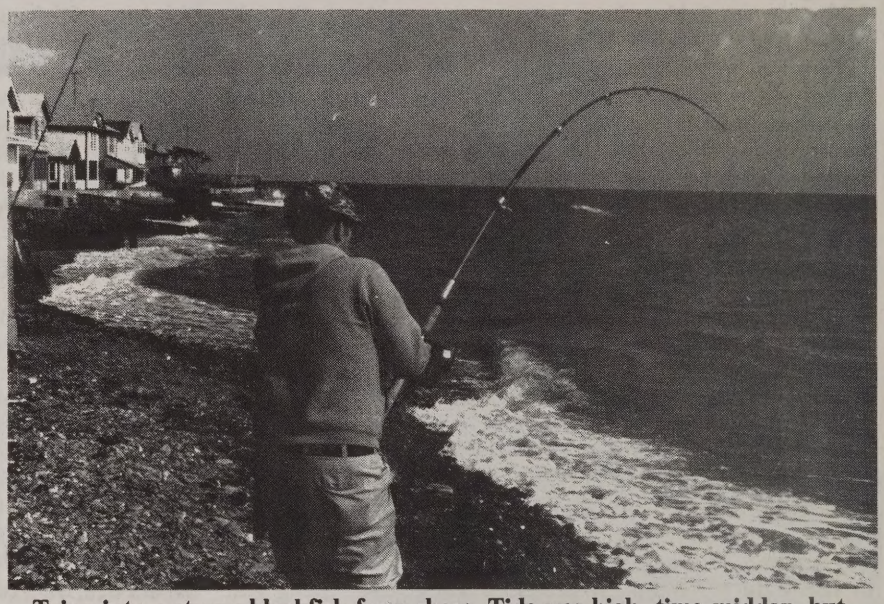
What makes Rocco work from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. and, with fatigue dripping from every muscle, fish beside me until dawn?

What makes all these people do these things? Because if you can cut it, surf fishing is the greatest! The challenge of the surf, the thrill of the strike, the knowledge that you have fooled a wise old cow not during the blitz but while she fed cautiously in a quiet surf — that's satisfaction that makes the heart pound! The hard work, the nights with an empty stringer, the leaky waders, the surf pounding against you, the sight of a bass in the curl of a wave or jumping clear of the surface against the backdrop of a harvest moon are some of the elements that keep you coming back for more.

Why am I sitting here writing this, trying to explain what it means to be a part of a surf fraternity that offers no formal induction? I'm heading for the beach!

BLACKFISH For Shore

by Don Millus



Tying into a strong blackfish from shore. Tide was high, time midday, but that didn't stop the fish.

"Blackfish don't fight much do they?" The questioner was a neighbor of mine, Bill Keiran, who spends part of his fall vacation sitting in his summer house on the Connecticut shore of the Sound and gazing out towards Long Island. It isn't that he's a dreamer, but this fall he spent a lot of time waiting in vain for the bluefish to show up on the surface. Not that they didn't poke their heads up occasionally, but they were late in hitting the top and, when they did, it was a rare and brief appearance at most. His question about blackfish came when I suggested a midday fishing trip from shore for the big-bellied bottom dwellers. Since there wasn't a tern in sight he gave in. Nothing like having only one game in town.

It was a bright, clear day and the wind was whipping in from the west. With the tide high, there was a lot of water over some of the usually shallow rocks down by the beach. A lot of white was showing and I wondered if, with the wind as brisk as it was, we would even be able to cast the cut green crabs very far. It was Bill's first exposure to the little uglies, but he soon mastered the knack of hooking them (just a half) through one of the leg openings. The shell then peeled right off. I warned him about dragging the sinker and blackfish hooks over the rocks and we both cast out across the wind.

My first cast went too close to the reef that runs out from shore, but the second one landed in about six feet of water, some thirty yards out. We were using nine foot surf outfits with twenty pound test line...I hate to have fish break off just because the line is entirely mismatched to fish and bottom.

The first tap-tap cheered me up; at least something was out there. When the tip started to move toward the water I leaned back and, for a minute, thought I had bottom. Then the tip of the rod started to vibrate and I again leaned back to try to keep the tautog's nose out of the rocks. Nothing spectacular about the fight, just that the fish didn't give up until I had slid his four pound bulk up on shore.

By now we had a bit of an audience: two local fishermen that had been using worms and fiddler crabs and not having much luck, and a couple of nearby workmen putting up siding came over to check out the catch. Just about then Bill responded to a good tug by tugging back, and he almost went into the water when the fish took off for Suffolk County. A big grin showed he realized that fall blackfish can put up quite a struggle. We finally weighed the fish up at seven pounds, considerably lighter than the sixteen pounder that won a big contest a few years ago. That fish, too, was taken from shore on green crabs. As usual in these cases it was a matter of beginner's luck.

Just to keep things even I hooked into a pair of blacks on my next cast. The sensation of the two fish pulling in opposite directions is clearly transmitted through line and rod. With the wind whipping the waves we managed to get a few good soakings landing the fish, but with the blacks taking the baits hard we really didn't mind. Despite the fact that it was the middle of the day and the sky was almost perfectly clear, the high water and waves probably made the fish feel more secure than usual. Of course, it's ordinarily harder to hook blacks from shore, and a bit more difficult to keep them out of the rocks. On the few occasions where they did wrap themselves up in the bottom a little steady pressure usually worked them free. Considerably lighter line probably would have lost those fish that snagged up.

By now the guys up on the nearby scaffolding were paying more attention to us than to their siding. The two old-timers who had been fishing worms and fiddlers up the beach started edging closer and closer, but it didn't help their fishing. The secret seemed to be in the bait.

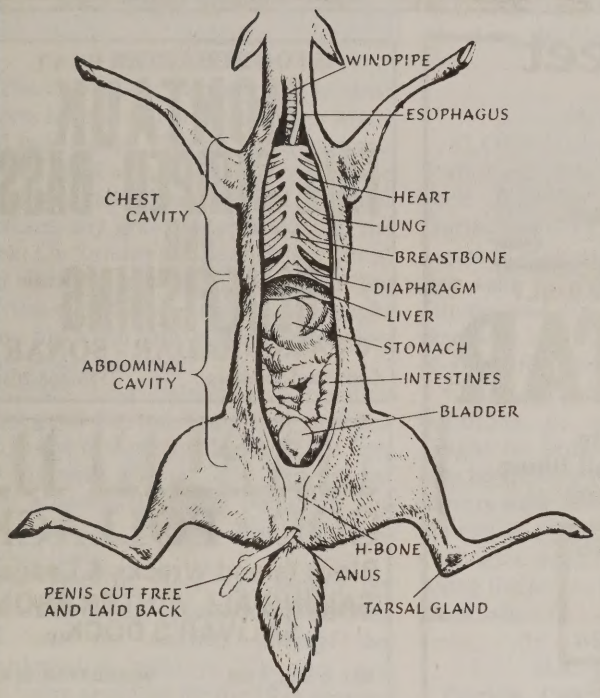
Besides the green crabs, a board and stout knife to cut them with, and a big pail for the fish, a sand-spike is a handy thing to have; not so much to hold the rod while the bait is in the water, but while you're baiting and unhooking the fish it's a great help.

The blacks should be with us for another few weeks and although the coats get heavier and heavier and the gloves begin to feel good around the middle of November, the shore-caught black has an advantage: you don't have to worry about the water kicking up as you would fishing from a boat. Anytime in fall, the windier the better, it's blackfish for shore!

STOP POLLUTION!
Keep Our Waters Clean,

CUTTING UP THE DEER

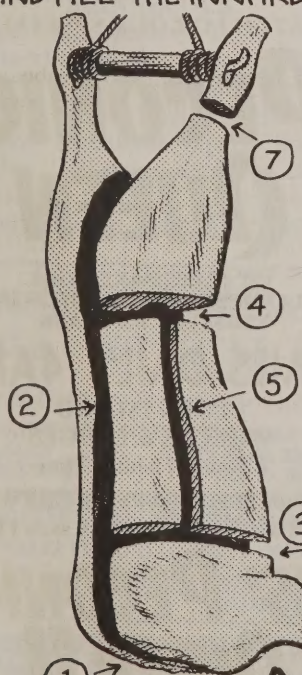
BY FRED GUARDINEER



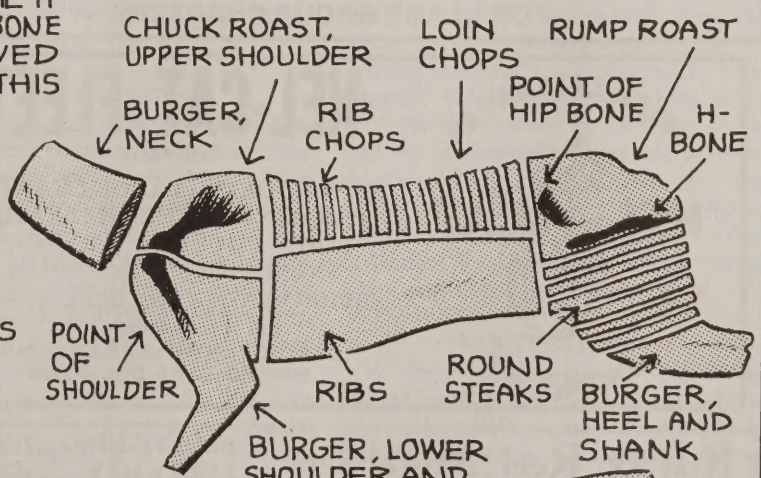
CUT-AWAY DIAGRAM OF A BUCK DEER SHOWS LOCATION OF VARIOUS ORGANS. IN ACTUAL DRESSING-OUT THE SLIT WOULD EXTEND FROM THE H-BONE ONLY AS FAR AS THE BREAST BONE AND ALL THE INNARDS ARE REMOVED THROUGH THIS OPENING.

SOME KNIVES SUITABLE FOR FIELD DRESSING DEER AND A SMALL CARCASS AXE.

TO DRAG A DEER WITHOUT RUINING THE HEAD, TIE A NYLON ROPE AROUND THE ANTLERS AND THEN HALF HITCH IT AROUND THE MUZZLE. THIS KEEPS THE DEER'S NOSE OFF THE GROUND.



AFTER SKINNING, CARCASS CAN BE DIVIDED INTO VARIOUS SECTIONS AS SHOWN AT LEFT



THE SECTIONS CAN BE CUT UP AS SUGGESTED AT RIGHT

ALSO SUGGESTED IS A PROFESSIONAL BUTCHER IF AVAILABLE!

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INSIDE OF HIND LEG SHOWING POSITION OF H-BONE

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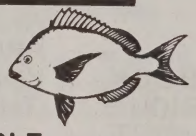

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South Shore Report

MONTAUK

The open boats were stymied in their efforts to fish offshore by the high winds and heavy seas. Fishing locally around Block Island and at Sharks Ledge made the trips more bearable but did not produce any great catches during the week. On Sunday the weather improved and with it there was an increase in the catches of codfish. Anglers also caught some blackfish and pollack while they were closer inshore.

Striped bass fishing still remains fairly good for the boats that make it out to the Shagwong Reef and the rips off Montauk Point. The bass range from schoolies to thirty pounders but the small to medium size fish are predominant.

The Hel-Cat Fleet has wound up operations for the season, however, they will sail for codfish during the Thanksgiving holidays. Charters are now being accepted for the 1974 season.

Johnny Kronuch, Jr. summed up the surf fishing picture in two words, "it stunk." Nothing much came in except for a few small bass. The south shore surf was clearing over the weekend.

SHINNECOCK

Capt. Clark Bellows, Jr. is running for blackfish in the Peconics and is doing fairly well. The Capt. Clark II is no longer sailing from Sag Harbor.

Mickey Altenkirch reports the surf fishermen are doing very well on the east side of the inlet. Fishing with a sinking Rebel in the early morning is producing school sized striped bass. These fish range in size from shorts to about 8 lbs. The flounders are biting a little better in the canal and Shinnecock Bay. Mickey said anglers are still knocking the blackfish dead in Peconic Bay.

MORICHES

FLOUNDERS! Tadsen's Fishing Station called to report anglers had very good flounder fishing on Sunday. During the week this fishing was lousy, however, it seems to have broken open. Ben said all their boats were out on Sunday and they all came in with fish. One boat had over 90 fish and a couple of these fish went to 2½ lbs.

Chet at B & B Tackle reports a multitude of school stripers being caught on plugs from the beach and also by trolling tubes. Flounder fishing reports were mostly from those fishing the canals as not many people went out during the week. These catches are fair. Along the jetties there are still plenty of blackfish.

MASTIC BEACH

Patricia Cole of Moriches Bait & Tackle said the flounder fishing picked up tremendously on Sunday and it seems to be holding up. Good catches are being made by most everyone. The flats seem to be producing better fishing than Forge River.

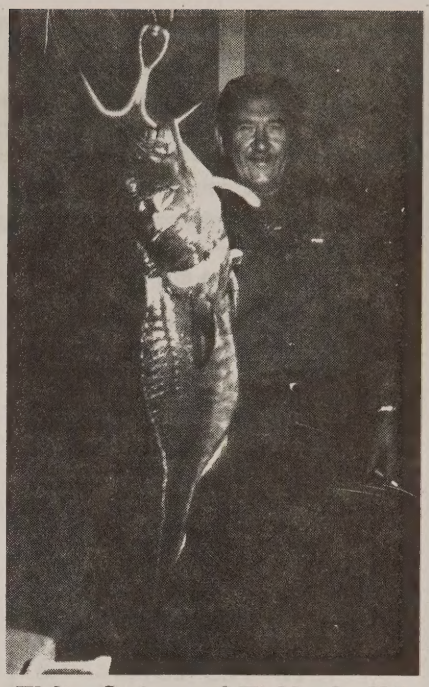
CAPTREE

Capt. Ben Litwin fished for flounders and had poor results. Capt. Ben then switched over to blackfishing. They went to the wrecks outside and did fairly well. Mrs. Litwin had a real winner for herself with a double header of blackfish going about 7 lbs. This Saturday, Capt. Ben will go for codfish.

The Capt. Joseph Fleet had one boat fishing the offshore wrecks on Sunday and wound up with about forty fish, one going to 38 lbs. The Capt. Joseph fished outside for blacks and did well on Saturday and Sunday. Flounder fishing is rather disappointing right now.

BABYLON

Jean Principe of Augie's Bait & Tackle reports some private boats went out fishing open bottom for codfish and wound up with dogfish mostly. On Saturday there were loads of bluefish in 65 ft. of water for those who went out trolling. Some nice sized flounders are on the flats at Heckscher, however, no big catches have been reported. A few flounders and eels were caught from the docks.



Walter Springer of Highlands, N.J. poses with the 52 lb. cod he caught on October 28th aboard the Peconic Queen II out of Montauk.

LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait & Tackle reports flounder fishing remains the same, the fish are small but plentiful. Bluefish were located on the outside over the weekend. Striped bass were caught by drifting eels from the bridge to the Sore Thumb. Gilgo Beach also held some bass for the trollers in 35 ft. of water and for surfcasters. There are a lot of dogfish on the open bottom and the codfish should be right behind them. John Schaeffer said to try for blackfish at Kismet Reef with soft shelled clams when you can't get fiddler crabs.

AMITYVILLE

A forty pound striped bass was caught by Dick Renz at Cedar Beach on a live eel, reports George Combs Bait & Tackle. Flounders are plentiful at the Amityville Cut and Unqua Point, however, they are still small.

SEAFORD

Lon Wanser, Jr. reports bass are being caught on both live eels and artificial eels at Cedar and Gilgo Beaches. Lon said that if anglers would dress for the cooler weather, they could do quite well fishing for the bass. Flounders seem to be picking up in size, with some going well over 1 lb. The State Channel and drawbridges seem to be doing well. Lon had no blackfish catches to report.

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North Shore Report

GREENPORT

Art White reports there are a few blues in Plum Gut and the striped bass are picking up. Blackfish are still in abundance around Plum Island and the lighthouse. Gull Island and Old Silas Rock are also holding blacks. Flounders are being caught off Long Beach Point and Orient State Park.

SOUTHOLD

Southold Fishing Station reports good blackfishing and flounders can be found in the Southold Bay area. The Brickyard and the Mud Hole seem to be the better spots.

Lisa Lieblein of the Port of Egypt Fishing Station reports good striper fishing in the Gut using Diamond jigs and white and yellow bucktails with pork rind. Outgoing tide is best. Blackfishing seemed to be a fifty-fifty proposition, but these fish hit very well on the calmer days. Flounders are available but there are no big fish or big catches at Orient State Park on the south side.

MOUNT SINAI

Dick's Sporting Goods reports blackfish are at the jetty and some flounders can be found in the harbor. Bass action has been quiet.

PORT JEFFERSON

Plaza Sports reports the fishing has been quiet. Blackfish are on the outside and flounders are inside. This makes up the bulk of the action. Bass are being caught but information has been scanty.

NORTHPORT

Ted Bowman reports an increase in striped bass fishing from the beaches. Swimming plugs are what these bass want mostly, however, an occasional bass is coming in on worms. The Sound beaches, Makamah, Crab Meadow and Asharoken, are the most producitve. Flounders are just so-so but they seem to be picking up.

HUNTINGTON

Four Winds Tackle reported Eaton's Neck and Diamond Point were producing small, school sized bass. Umbrella rigs and bucktails were trolled for these fish. Blues are no longer around. George mentioned that striped bass were starting to show at the powerhouse for the casters using small bucktails and Rebels.

Capt. Don Constantin of the Ever Ready Fleet reports that he has located a hot spot for big blackfish and plenty of them. Weather permitting, this is what's in store for his fares over the weekend. Capt. Don will be sailing for the Buoy 11B area, off Eaton's Neck Coast Guard Station. There may be stripers in that water, too, says Don. In the event there are strong winds, Don has a flounder hole he'll resort to.

GLEN COVE

Glen Cove Sports Shop reports the striped bass have been moving in and out. Big plugs enployed by casters and trollers are what's taking these fish. Flounders are being taken in the Glen Cove area.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait & Tackle reported that blackfish seem to be the only species biting. They are at Execution Light, Pea Island, Matinecock Reef, Harts Island and out at Buoy 11B. Both the private and the open boats are fishing these areas.

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N.Y. Bight Report

FREEPORT

"Unbelievable blackfishing," reports Capt. Paul Schmidt of the Aloma. The spectacular catch made on Sunday was measured in 50-gallon drums topped off with blackfish caught by only seven passengers and the crew. Low man had a measly 50 fish, while Pat Flaherty had 85. The Capt. himself had over 200, largest 4 lbs., with many larger fish dropped. The Aloma fished 4 miles due south of the Jones Tower off the Stone Barge. Clams, fiddlers and green crabs were the baits. Surprisingly, the blackfish seemed to prefer the clam baited on the top hook.

Capt. Richie Kessinger said that the Star Stream sailed both Saturday and Sunday and fished offshore wrecks and mussel bottom about 1-1½ hours off the Inlet. About 50 codfish were taken each day, all 15 lbs. and up. The pool fish each day went over 30 lbs. There were many big porgies, sea bass and blues mixed in.

Capt. Jim Zook of the Capt. Jim V called to say that over the weekend his charters were into bluefish up to 15 lbs. Black and amber tubes on wire line were trolled close to the beach from Long Beach to Atlantic Beach for these bluefish. The fish were in 20 ft. of water or less and the better action took place towards the west.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Plenty of fish still around, reports from Henning's Fishing Station say. Leon Miller said that Bob Foley of Sunnyside took his skiff, the Debbie, to the reef at Buoy #4. He promptly filled his box with over 60 blackfish of 2-5 lbs. Buddy Rogal trolled for blues and bass aboard his boat J & B and was rewarded with 12 blues. The largest was weighed in at Henning's and tipped the scales at 19 lbs. 2 ozs. Louie DiResta of Far Rockaway trolled along Atlantic Beach and scored with one bass that weighed in at 30 lbs. on the head. In the surf, two surfmen who wouldn't give Leon their names, took two bass from the surf at Lido Beach near the Malibu Surf Club. Leon weighed them in at 36¼ lbs. and 55 lbs. 2 ozs. respectively. Another bass weighed in during the week went 44 lbs. 5 ozs. Bannister Creek and Woodmere Channel are both producing good catches of flounder for the small skiff fisherman.

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"The bass are there," reports Capt. Ronnie Lepper of the Kim, if you can get through the blues. Bass and blues are mixed and in quantities. The blues are running 14-15 lbs., with the bass ranging from 20-50 lbs. This action is in the N.Y. Bight area, from Fire Island to Jersey. A 2-man charter on Monday took over 600 lbs. of blues in the 12-15 lb. range. These fish were all taken on Lupo umbrellas, both the black and the red. The bass are in 40-45 ft. of water, and they are feeding at a 15 ft. level. Blues are all over the place.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The Amberjack IV did a good job on the codfish on Saturday and Sunday with over 100 fish, according to Capt. Jim Ardolino. The pool fish on Saturday was a 45 lb. cow. The Captain said there are a lot of big sea porgies of 2½-3 lbs. and sea bass up to 7 lbs. mixed in with the cod. The Amberjack IV has been fishing offshore wrecks and while the fish are obviously there, the weather is keeping the people away.

Capt. Stan Kreisler of the charter boat Babe said that trolling the Tin Can area with umbrella rigs has been producing catches of about 20 bass per boat. Stan had a late start on Sunday and missed the tide, but still managed to put a half dozen bass in the box. The boats that had caught the tide already had 10-15 bass in the box by the time he arrived.

Capt. Artie Lino of the Wahoo III out of Gerrittsen Creek caught the biggest bass of his life last Wednesday when he didn't have a charter and so took a crack at the stripers himself. After huffing and puffing he finally boated the 53 lb. 14 oz. bass that had taken a bunker spoon trolled on West Bank, west of Ambrose Channel.

STATEN ISLAND

Lenny Killoran of Santo's Sport Shop reports some flounder activity in Great Kills Harbor. Most of the fish are on the small side, but there are enough ¾-1½ lb. fish to make this fishing worthwhile. A few Virginia spots are mixed in with the flounder as a bonus. Stripers are spotty. There's a slow pick at South Beach, Great Beach Park and Princess Bay. Bucktails and bait are producing.

CONNECTICUT SCENE

DICK ALLEY

RHODE ISLAND

While Russ Fleet of the Connecticut River Striped Bass Club advises on being "weathered-out" in the Saybrook-Westbrook-Clinton area, the Rhode Island situation has come alive. The weekend was red hot despite high winds and cold thermometer readings at Charleston, Quonne, East Beach and Weekapaug, with bluefish aplenty hitting big Rebels and Atom swimmers. Most averaged 8 to 10 lbs., with a 15 pounder the biggest Russ saw all day. Kastmasters and Hopkins lures also paid off. Best catch of the whole weekend went to 9 year old Robbie Easton, of Wilberham, Mass., who took a 13¾ lb. chopper on a popper. There's a young angler with a future.

WESTPORT

Bass have been the main goal of Westport area fishermen, or should I say fisherwomen. Gail Metcalf picked up a quintet of stripers to 12 lbs. casting poppers from Compo Beach. A trio of bluefish provided a bonus. Cora Sample took the biggest blue of the week at the same location, a whopping 17 pounder.

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Hers was taken on bunker. Ed Boland at the Westport Tackle Shop passes on the word that bass and bluefishing has been great for those braving the weather. Bedford's Point and Sherwood Island are tops for bucktail bottom-bouncers. Butch and Mac McElwee took 37 schoolies (releasing most) at Schlait's Point, all on bucktails. Pat and Bill Carroll scored at Bedford's and Burying Hill with 70 stripers in an afternoon. Ed also tells us that those fishermen sneaking out to Middle-ground between storms are also enjoying steady bluefish on wire.

PARTY BOATS

It's blackfish for the party boats, with both the Delmar out of Greenwich and the Theresa-L out of Norwalk hitting fish steadily, despite the weather. Blacks are averaging 4 to 6 lbs., with pool winners usually running a pound or three higher.

Capt. John Minnitti will be skippering the Delmar from its Greenwich port through the first week in December. Tom Duscio plans sailing through the 18th of November from his Norwalk port.

MAMARONECK

We found Fred Archer beginning to haul his rental boats when we called the Mamaroneck Fishing Station. Fred will have rentals available until his closing date of November 18th. Blackfish and flounder are accounting for most of the fishing here and the fishing should be good through then.

Jack Karwosky at Jack's Sporting Goods in Stamford has had good reports of flounder and tomcod in the cove and at Holly Pond. There's more of a shortage of bass fishermen than bass, with those heading out hitting fish. Jack will be carrying bait for another couple of weeks.

DARIEN

At the Bait Shop we caught Roy DeMague, who fishing with Richie Volland, has been having a ball with bass for a week or so. Roy reports the fish really thick in the Norwalk Islands, with 20 and 30 fish a day common. Roy also passed on the suggestion of changing the treble hooks on poppers for singles and releasing the fish unharmed. Good suggestion!

NORWALK

We spoke with Bruce Mola at Mola Bros. Bait & Tackle and found that Rick had also been out scoring on bass. They also spent an afternoon catching blackfish, and tallied 38 outside of Sheffield, and that doesn't include the throwbacks. They saw bass breaking and made a couple of casts, but using extreme will power returned to what they started for and made their tautog catch.

BRIDGEPORT

At Ted's Bait, Teddy Ferrante had a couple of good catches recorded during the week. John Halasz, trolling a triple rig at Middleground, collected a 17¾ lb. bluefish. Bob Miske made the bass honors with a 38 pounder at Penfield on bunker. Ted tells us blacks are still good at the spindle at the end of Penfield, and flounder are fair. Ted will have bait as long as the weather holds, at least through November.

MILFORD

Vince at the Sportsman's Rendezvous reports that bass and blacks are the best bets, with Charles Island and the mouth of the Housy paying off. Vince was ready to head for Quincy for a flounder trip. During his last trip, a couple of weeks ago, he and his gang took 600 lbs. of fish.

NEW HAVEN

Blues at Hammonassett from shore late in the week, according to Walt Janeczek at Outdoor Sports. Ken McKenzie took five on chunk baits. Frostfish at Stony Creek, Saybrook and Branford, with sandworms the best bet. Blackfishing is the best, and the best spot for this species is Six Mile Reef.

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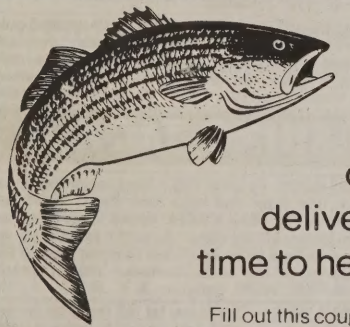

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The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

	A.M		P.M.	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs	8:40	**3:00**	9:10	**3:30**
Fri	9:45	**4:00**	10:10	**4:25**
Sat	10:40	**4:55**	11:05	**5:20**
Sun	11:35	**5:40**	11:50	**6:05**
Mon		**6:20**	12:20	**6:45**
Tues	12:30	**7:05**	1:00	**7:25**
Wed	1:15	**7:45**	1:40	**8:10**
Thurs	1:55	**8:25**	2:25	**8:50**

CLASSIFIED

To place an ad in The Long Island Fisherman Classified call (516) 667-6636. *Classified ads are billed at 15 cents a word with a $4.50 or 30 word minimum. Discounts on extended runs: 12 times, 5%; 35 times, 10%; 50 times, 15%. Ask about our Photo Classified. Effective date Jan. 1, 1973.*

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17' Penn Yan, 85 h.p., trailer
19' Chriscraft Lancer, 185 h.p.
25' Allamd, Twin 120 h.p. I/ O's
16' Whaler, 100 h.p., trailer
21' Thompson, 170 h.p. I/ O
22' Luhrs with 185 V-8 Chris
26' Ulricksen with 185 V8, F/ B
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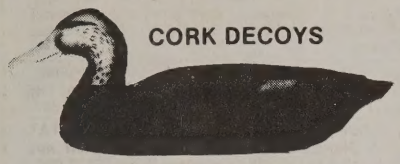

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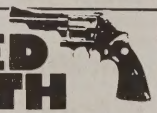

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HIGH TIDE TABLES

	SANDY HOOK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
THURSDAY	11:17		12:28	12:45	2:20	2:36	2:24	2:44
FRIDAY	12:05	12:19	1:34	1:52	3:33	3:56	3:23	3:48
SATURDAY	1:03	1:20	2:40	3:03	4:58	5:28	4:26	4:52
SUNDAY	2:04	2:22	3:47	4:14	6:10	6:41	5:28	5:56
MONDAY	3:06	3:25	4:48	5:16	7:13	7:43	6:29	6:57
TUESDAY	4:05	4:24	5:43	6:17	8:08	8:38	7:25	7:54
WEDNESDAY	4:56	5:16	6:33	7:04	8:57	9:27	8:16	8:47
THURSDAY	5:43	6:01	7:16	7:47	9:45	10:14	9:05	9:34

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Potunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
(Inlet,Breakwater & Dem. Pt.)	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0 25
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0 00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26
STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
MANASQUAN	−0 12

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Connecticut River	+1 10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land (Napeague)	−0 14
Fort Pond Bay	−0 29
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point	−1 13

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28

PHASES OF THE MOON

11/24	11/3	11/10	11/17
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	−0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0 08
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet −0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". − 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

TO

030272-
E.W. HOCKER
53 LOCUST AVE.
ISLIP, N.Y. 11751